

# 63 ARE DEAD AS RESULT OF FIRE IN CLOTHING FACTORY

Building Bursts Into Flames Like a Tinder Box and Becomes a Roaring Furnace in a Few Minutes After the First Alarm is Turned in—Manager Blames Cigaret For Tragedy.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

The disaster bears a strong resemblance to the Triangle Waist company holocaust in New York city where 147 lives were lost when the inflammable material upon which the employees were working and the waste which littered the floors blazed up with inconceivable rapidity and set the imprisoned workers jumping from the windows to their death.

The parallel here falls only in the lesser height and different construction of the building and in the length of the list of dead and injured. Another resemblance is that the fire Tuesday is believed to have been started by the careless throwing of a cigarette butt or match.

**Fire Drills Monotonous.**  
In the tragedy of Tuesday afternoon the killing burst of flame followed quickly upon the heels of the alarm. There was small opportunity for any one to use the ordinary or even the emergency means of escape. Fire drills had been carried on regularly, so frequently in fact, that the employees had found them monotonous.

The building was equipped with fire-escapes and an automatic alarm system. The alarm tinkled at 2:30 o'clock. Mrs. Reed B. Freeman, wife of the proprietor, telephoned to the central fire station. The usual apparatus for a first alarm responded. Some excited person at Warren and Chicago streets, four blocks away, saw a burst of flame and pulled the box there. The rest of the companies answered this alarm.

That meant 10 minutes of delay for part of the firemen. But even those who arrived first were unable to do anything. The first puff of flame was hardly discerned before the fire leaped along the staircases and walls, up the elevator shaft, along the floors and ceiling. There was a roar, front and rear, and the flames belched forth clear across Wall st., on which the buildings fronted, withering the shade trees on the river bank and scorching the building across an alley at the rear.

After this fierce blast the fire seemed the burst from every part of the building at once. Upon the fire escapes girls, women and men were clustered and inside others were waiting to get onto the iron ladders. But the flames were too quick for them.

The slow starting of the fire drill may have contributed to the disaster, the delay in getting all the firemen to the scene may have been responsible for part of the loss of life. But persons who were early on the scene said that these things did not materially affect the result.

When the firemen arrived in response to the telephone alarm, they were unable to get within 200 feet of the burning building and the ends of the streams from the hose were turned into steam without effect upon the fire. The life nets and extension ladders of the firemen were equally useless. There was no chance for those caught on the upper floors except the last resort to jumping. But this many took, while others fell, shriveled and crumpled with the heat.

Scarcely one of the survivors was able to give a connected account of what took place on the upper floors of the factory when the employees there, mostly women and girls, realized that the fire call was no false alarm and that death was coming upon them. The coolest among them recalled that women fainted by dozens and that the scene was of indescribable confusion. Some of the men, employees apparently kept their heads and did their best to rescue the imperiled women.

**Dash For Windows.**  
The fire escapes were not large enough to hold all who rushed madly to the exits and there was a dash for



SAMUEL DIXON, Candidate for Councilman in the Fourth Ward.

The legislative powers of a city are vested in the city council. This body passes upon franchises and other matters of the highest importance to the people. Many cities have suffered from the ignorance and lack of qualifications of its councilmen. A city of our size needs, councilmen of the highest caliber, honesty, energy, judgment and courage to stand for the right. No man is entitled to sit in the city council who is dishonest, a weakling or a trimmer.

No man in the fourth ward has higher or better qualifications for this position than Samuel Dixon of River Park. He will be a credit to the city and the people who elect him. His friends are rallying to his support and we freely predict that he will sit in the next city council.

A vote for him is a step toward good government.—Advertisement.

the windows, the trapped victims screaming with pain as the flames swept upon them from behind and seared their bodies.

Then from windows and fire escapes bodies began dropping. They fell thick and fast. The building was but four stories high, and many who jumped even from the topmost floor escaped with their lives. Although most of them were badly maimed. It was on the fourth floor that most of the women operators were working, and it was among these that the loss of life and injury was greatest.

As soon as the first of the fire victims were brought to the hospital convalescents among the regular patients were set to work tearing up bandages; physicians sawed up every available board for splints to bind up the broken limbs, and Fathers Ellis, Walsh and McLoughlin, together with the Rev. Francis, came to offer spiritual consolation to the desperately injured.

One of the most pathetic scenes at the hospital, is that of Miss Ruth Croddy, who is slowly dying with a broken spine. She has been in Birmingham but one week, having come here from Port Jervis to work with her two sisters, neither of whom, so far as can be learned, escaped from the fire.

"When I first heard the alarm of fire," said Miss Croddy, "I jumped from my chair and started for the stairs, but when I reached them they were so crowded with the other operators that I could not get down and in another instant the whole story was ablaze."

Miss Croddy jumped from a window. Tells of Her Escape.  
Mary McDonough, an employee, told a simple story of escape. She was on the fourth floor when the fire broke out. The employees on that floor thought it was a fire drill at that time and marshaled in line slowly. When the flames burst upon them many fainted and a panic ensued.

"It was all over in a flash," she said. "The fire burst upon us. There was a period of great confusion. I do not know how I got to the street, but think I fainted and was carried out by some one unknown to me."

Vernon Wilbur, superintendent of service in the burned shop, said: "Lynn Dibble and I ran to the fire escape and climbed up our ladder. We dropped two girls to the men below. They were standing five or six deep in each window when the flames waving directly behind them. They were mad with pain and the sound of their cries was as if the wind were howling in our ears."

Esther Baskin, 19 years old, jumped from the second story, sustaining a compound fracture of the leg. She also was badly scarred by the flames, which burst upon her in the stairway. In broken English she told her story.

**Did It Two Weeks Ago.**  
"When the fire alarm was sent in everybody thought they were 'fooling us' because they did it two weeks ago. But when I heard everybody shouting 'fire,' and saw them running I ran down stairs. When I reached the third floor I found the stairs alive but ran quickly down them to the second floor. Here a dozen or more girls had gathered, driven back by the fire into the stairway. Everything was on fire about me and I could not breathe. I managed to get to a window and jumped. How long I lay I don't remember. The next thing I knew it seemed as though the ground all about me was on fire and I would roast to death. I tried to get up, but fell back when a dozen or more men rushed over, picked me up and put me in an ambulance. That was the first time in my life I had so many fellows," and she smiled bravely.

Mrs. Ida Prentice did her best to get the other women employees to flee when the alarm first sounded, believing the danger "real." She stayed in the burning building, directing the girls until the last minute. Then, wrapping a large sheet of awning material about her, she jumped from the fourth story.

**The Girls Hesitated.**  
"When the fire alarm sounded, the girls hesitated," said Mrs. Prentice. "I turned and called to the operators that the alarm had rung and all must get out as soon as possible. Then the flames burst upon us. I was nearly smothered, and hanging to the steam pipe was barely able to make my way to the window. Here I wrapped an awning about me and jumped."

Before I jumped, I looked back and saw scores of girls. There were many left to burn alive." Much difficulty was encountered in compiling even a partial list of the dead and injured Tuesday night, because the list of employees was kept in the safe which is buried beneath the ruins.

Some features of the catastrophe were brought out in a statement by Reed B. Freeman, president of the company, which operated the burned factory.

Due to a Cigaret.  
"I was the one who when Mrs. Freeman called to me that there was a fire," said Mr. Freeman. "I ran out on the main floor and saw flames coming out from under the open stairway. Some of our employees are so addicted to cigarettes that smoking being forbidden in the building, they went out into the alley every hour or so for a puff. I believe one of these, on returning to work, threw his cigarette under the stairway."

"Soon the flames had begun to sweep throughout the ground floor like a flash."

"Mrs. Freeman, in the office, had the telephone receiver down trying to call the central fire station. So swift was the rush of flames that she had to drop it."

"As we ran out the bodies of girls began to drop from the upper floor windows. They seemed more like sacks of flour than human bodies. I saw three girls jump from windows."

"It being a comparatively warm day all the doors and windows were open and this provided a terrific draft."

"If the facts ever become known, I believe it will be found that the heads of the departments showed splendid heroism in sticking to their posts and directing the girls. Under the rules of the fire drill they were so instructed, and I believe all stayed at their posts, some to perish in the flames."

The fire, besides destroying the Birmingham Clothing Co. building,

## INSURGENTS WILL OFFER SUBSTITUTES

Members of House Banking and Currency Committee Spend Day Going Over the Administration Currency Measure.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The democrats of the house banking and currency committee struggled along with their consideration of the administration currency bill Tuesday and when they adjourned Tuesday night but a few scattered sections remained to be considered. At the same time several so-called "insurgent" members of the committee prepared to put into a substitute measure, which would make the bill conform with some of the more radical currency ideas, and would embrace many of the recommendations of the Pujo money trust committee.

Rep. Henry of Texas, known as leader of the Bryan element in the house, who is associated with the "insurgent" movement, called on Pres. Wilson at the white house and presented the changes proposed in the substitute. The president did not go over the amendments in detail but it is understood that he will review them, and later will confer with Rep. Henry and those members of the committee who have manifested opposition to the Glass measure.

In the committee democrats Tuesday rejected by a vote of nine to four a proposition presented by Rep. Ragdale, which would have made cotton warehouse receipts redeemable in the federal reserve banks to be created under the new law.

A number of minor amendments were approved and Chairman Glass said that but two important sections remained to be considered. He was unable to say when the democrats would conclude their deliberations, and he is prepared for some rather strenuous opposition before he can secure an agreement.

## INDIVIDUALS KEYNOTE TODAY

Bishop Anderson of Cincinnati Tells Methodists That Church Must Work For Salvation of the Different Members.

"The only way to save society from degradation and ruin is through the salvation of the individuals that make up society," said Bishop W. F. Anderson of Cincinnati, O., in his address at the large mass meeting representing all the Methodist churches of South Bend at St. Paul's M. E. church Tuesday evening.

A meeting was held in the afternoon at the First Methodist church at which Bishop Anderson, Rev. J. H. Race, D. D., the new publisher and agent of the Methodist book concern and Rev. E. Wareing, associate editor of the Western Christian Advocate, spoke. Rev. M. H. Appleby presided at both sessions which were largely attended.

In the evening Bishop Anderson talked on the subject, "The Church as an Engine of Progress." He stated in his opening remarks that he had appropriated this striking title from a recent book written by the English scientist, Sir Oliver Lodge.

**Engine of Progress.**  
For nearly an hour and a half he held the attention of his audience, as he expounded and illustrated with eloquent word pictures the points of his theme. He said, "I like to think of the church being considered as an engine of progress in the world. It is not true that for the past centuries the church has been a leader in advancing civilization? The object of the church is the establishment of the kingdom of God, which has been accomplished thus far only by the salvation of the individual through the preaching of the gospel of Christ."

"I am in favor of social service, and of work being done for social betterment. The big word," said the bishop, "in christian vocabulary, is the word of regeneration. Need of regeneration is felt now as never before. Secular editors write long articles about it in the pulpits. It is preached about and on every hand we feel its need."

In his closing remarks he lamented that men of the church did not have a large vision of Christian service. In the business world he said that they figured in millions of dollars while they only gave a small thought to Christian development.

**Need a Broader Vision.**  
"It is time," said he, "that men who count themselves Christians get a broader vision of the church, and consecrate themselves and money to its advancement. The church will continue to degenerate as long as the Christians above it."

Dr. Race and Dr. Wareing also addressed the evening session urging that the people cooperate in a campaign being started in the vicinity to distribute the Western Christian Advocate here. An effort was made at the mass meeting to place 1,000 copies in circulation in this district. Rev. Blaine Kirkpatrick was appointed by the bishop to take charge of the distribution here.

Next week the Indiana Epworth league will hold an all week session at Battle Ground, Ind., at which several South Bend Methodist churches will be represented. Arrangements were made at the meetings for attending. Rev. Mr. Appleby will go and will have charge of placing the Western Christian Advocate proposition before the conference as it was placed before this meeting. He was appointed by the bishop to fill this office.

The total money damage, however, is not expected to exceed \$100,000.

BY THE STORE THAT IS NOTED FOR DOING THINGS THAT OTHERS WOULD LIKE TO DO

## Shelf Emptying Sale

STARTS THURSDAY MORNING AT 8:00 O'CLOCK

A CLEARING OF SHELVES AND COUNTERS, AS THEY WERE NEVER CLEARED BEFORE.

Never in the History of Any Store Has Such Bargains been extended to South Bend.

A Sale of New, Fresh Merchandise, each and every item a wonderful bargain standing for wonderful values that will astound all South Bend. Record Breaking crowds will SEEK THESE BARGAINS.

DON'T FAIL TO SEE THE BIG WINDOW DISPLAY OF THESE UNUSUAL BARGAINS. SHOP EARLY—STORE CLOSING THURSDAY AT 6 P. M. SHARP. SHOP EARLY.

**\$3.00 SILK PETTICOATS . . . 99c**  
Women's \$3.00 all silk Taffeta and Messaline Petticoats; all leading shades, with deep tailored flounce. Sale price 99c.

**\$3.50 LONG SILK KIMONOS \$1.98**

In beautiful Persian and floral designs and colorings; handsome shirred and silk trimmed; all sizes. Sale price \$1.98.

**35c CHILDREN'S ROMPERS . . . 17c**

Made of chambray and linen trimmed; size 2 to 6.

**\$2.00 PRINCESS SLIPS . . . 98c**

Made of Muslin and Nainsook Embroidery and lace and ribbon trimmed. Perfect fitting.

**75c MUSLIN GOWNS . . . 38c**

20 dozen of Ladies' Muslin gowns, embroidery and ribbon trimmed.

**50c CORSET COVERS . . . 37c**

Beautiful line of Corset Cover Embroidery, Lace and Ribbon trimmed.

**\$2.00 MATTING SUIT CASES . . . 98c**

Large size Matting Suit Cases; steel reinforced corners.

**WOMEN'S 10c HOSE . . . 5c**

Women's real 10c fast color black and Tan Lisle Cotton Hose; Shelf Emptying Sale 5c.

**LADIES' 35c Lisle Gloves . . . 17c**

Women's Short Lisle Washable Gloves; two strong clasps black and white; sale price 17c.

**CHILD'S 10c HOSE . . . 6 1/2c**

Boys' and Girls' Fast Color black ribbed Hose; all sizes up to 8. Shelf-emptying Sale pair, 6 1/2c.

**\$1.00 CURTAIN SAMPLES . . . 32c**

Curtains; salesmen's samples, etc. About 300 in the lot. Some worth as high as \$1.50 each. White and ecru. Choice of Each Curtain during Shelf Emptying Sale, 32c.

**50c CRIB BLANKETS . . . 38c**

Fine wool finish. Pink or blue. In summer weight Egyptian balbriggan shirt or drawers.

**MEN'S 50c WORK SHIRTS . . . 37c**

Made of best Amoskeag chambray and black seamen.

**\$1.00 MEN'S NIGHT SHIRTS . . . 66c**

Of fine Cambric Muslin, silk braid trimmed.

**MEN'S 5c HANDKERCHIEFS . . . 2c**

White hemstitched Handkerchief; large size.

**18 BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM RUINS**

Coroner's Jury Finds That Fire at Jackson, Miss., Prison Farm Was Unavoidable Accident.

JACKSON, Miss., July 23.—Eighteen charred bodies were removed Tuesday from the ruins of the convict cage at the Oakley state prison farm where 35 Negro convicts perished in a fire early Tuesday. The bodies were found massed together and spent the days with friends.

## SUMMER DECORATION

Make your summer house restful and cool looking with fresh and quiet papers.

Your sleeping rooms can be made enticing in pretty florals or quaint chintz drawings which give a sense of being out-of-doors.

The time to enjoy your house is now. Take this opportunity to decorate at less than half the original cost.

THE I. W. LOWER DECORATING CO., WILL MORE THAN SATISFY YOU.

THE NEW BARGAIN CENTER  
**GRAND LEADER**  
132-134 W. WASH. ST. SO. BEND, IND.

**FRUIT OF THE LOOM MUSLIN . . . 7 1/2c**

Fruit of the Loom, best grade bleached muslin, full 36 inch; sold the world over at 12 1/2c yard. Shelf-emptying Sale price 7 1/2c.

**7 1/2c BEST Apron Gingham . . . 4 1/2c**

Best Standard grade Apron gingham, in all variety of popular checks; fast colors; Shelf Emptying Sale price 4 1/2c.

**12 1/2c STEVENS CRASH . . . 8c**

Stevens all linen Crash Toweling. Sold the world over at 12 1/2c yard. Shelf Emptying Sale, yard 8c.

**25c TABLE OIL CLOTH . . . 12 1/2c**

Best quality Table Oil cloth, 11-14 yards wide; all colors; attractive patterns. Shelf Emptying Sale, yard 12 1/2c.

**10c AND 12 1/2c Curtain Scrims . . . 6 1/2c**

One lot of yard wide Curtain scrims, in white, figured and dark patterns; madras. Shelf Emptying Sale price 6 1/2c.

**75c LACE CURTAINS . . . 44c**

2 1/2 yards long real Nottingham Lace Curtains in white and ecru. Pretty designs. Shelf Emptying Sale price, pair 44c.

## Sensation Cut Prices on Ready-to-Wear Apparel

For Women, Misses and Children During the Great Shelf-Emptying Sale.

**WOMEN'S \$12.00 SERGE COATS . . . \$5.99**

**WOMEN'S \$15.00 TAILORED SUITS . . . \$6.50**

**WOMEN'S AND MISSES \$16.50 NOVELTY MIXTURE COATS . . . \$2.19**

**CHILDREN'S \$5.00 ALL WOOL SERGE COATS, TRIMMED . . . 99c**

**WOMEN'S \$3.00 DRESS SKIRTS—FANCY NOVELTY CLOTH . . . \$3.99**

**WOMEN'S AND MISSES' \$10.00 SUMMER DRESSES, LINENS, RATINES . . . \$1.98**

**WOMEN'S AND MISSES' \$3.98 WHITE ALL-OVER EMBROIDERY DRESSES . . . \$2.68**

**WOMEN'S AND MISSES' \$3.50 TO \$5.00 SUMMER WASH DRESSES . . . \$1.68**

**WOMEN'S AND MISSES' \$3.50 STREET AND HOUSE DRESSES . . . \$1.68**

**\$1.00 Porosknit Union Suits . . . 58c**

Men's 11.00 Genuine Porosknit Union Suits and fine elastic ribbed Union Suits.

**MEN'S 35c SILK HOSE . . . 19c**

Men's Pure Silk Hose; double heel and toe.

**MEN'S \$1.00 Dress Shirts . . . 69c**

The best \$1.00 Shirt in all South Bend. All sizes. Sale price 69c.

**BOYS' \$1.50 WASH SUITS . . . 87c**

Boys' Wash Suits, made of best Hygrade Galatea cloth; all sizes 87c.

**BOYS' 35c WAISTS . . . 19c**

Waists of striped seersucker and blue chambray; with collar attached, all sizes.

**BOYS' 50c UNION SUITS . . . 28c**

Boys' Open Mesh Unions—made like Porosknit shorts and sleeves and knee length drawers.

**18 BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM RUINS**

Coroner's Jury Finds That Fire at Jackson, Miss., Prison Farm Was Unavoidable Accident.

JACKSON, Miss., July 23.—Eighteen charred bodies were removed Tuesday from the ruins of the convict cage at the Oakley state prison farm where 35 Negro convicts perished in a fire early Tuesday. The bodies were found massed together and spent the days with friends.

**18 BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM RUINS**

Coroner's Jury Finds That Fire at Jackson, Miss., Prison Farm Was Unavoidable Accident.

JACKSON, Miss., July 23.—Eighteen charred bodies were removed Tuesday from the ruins of the convict cage at the Oakley state prison farm where 35 Negro convicts perished in a fire early Tuesday. The bodies were found massed together and spent the days with friends.

**18 BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM RUINS**

Coroner's Jury Finds That Fire at Jackson, Miss., Prison Farm Was Unavoidable Accident.

JACKSON, Miss., July 23.—Eighteen charred bodies were removed Tuesday from the ruins of the convict cage at the Oakley state prison farm where 35 Negro convicts perished in a fire early Tuesday. The bodies were found massed together and spent the days with friends.

**18 BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM RUINS**

Coroner's Jury Finds That Fire at Jackson, Miss., Prison Farm Was Unavoidable Accident.

**35c LINEN WINDOW SHADES . . . 19c**

50 dozen standard 35c grade Linenline Window Shades, with guaranteed springs. Sale price 19c.

**\$2.50 HUMAN HAIR SWITCHES . . . 98c**

24 inches long, full and wavy, in all natural shades. Finest quality hair.

**\$1.00 LONG SILK GLOVES . . . 58c**

Women's Long Silk Gloves; double reinforced finger tips; white, black and all colors.

**59c KIMONA APRONS . . . 39c**

Women's Kimona Aprons; made of percale in check and stripe, piped with red.

**\$1.00 CORSETS HERE AT . . . 58c**

New long model of fine quality coutil, lace trimmed.

**CHILD'S 75c Barefoot Sandals . . . 39c**

Barefoot Sandals; all leather and heavy; sizes 4 to 11 1/2.

**\$1.50 GIRLS' WASH DRESSES . . . 87c**

In 20 different styles to choose from; the greatest lot of \$1.50 and \$2.00 Values at 87c.

**75c PURE SILK HOSE . . . 37c**

Women's Pure Silk Hose; double lisle soles and deep non-roll Garter tops; black, tan and white. Shelf Emptying Sale price 37c.

**WOMEN'S \$1 HOUSE DRESSES . . . 49c**

Made of good quality percale in light and dark colors; dutch neck style; all sizes—Shelf Emptying sale 49c.

**WOMEN'S LISLE VESTS . . . 8 1/2c**

Ladies' Fine Gauze Lisle Vests; some have deep crocheted lace yoke; others plain; sale price 8 1/2c.

**89c BED SHEETS FOR . . . 62c**

Extra large size bleached Bed Sheets, size 81x90. Fine soft muslin finished with 3-inch hem.

**25c CURTAIN SCRIMS . . . 15 1/2c**

Yard wide, beautiful